



CENTER FOR COALFIELD JUSTICE

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PENNSYLVANIA AGENCY GUIDE

This guide is intended to provide more information about agencies that the Center for Coalfield Justice may interact with in pursuit of a campaign. Agencies are broken up by campaign at the top of the document but are in alphabetical order below.

Agencies are part of the executive branch of the state government. They operate under the Governor, who appoints the Secretary of each agency and guides their work. Each agency has a specialty and is made up of experts in their respective fields. They write and enforce regulations, educate, perform public outreach, and more to help keep Pennsylvanians informed, safe, happy, and healthy.

CCJ Campaigns

Money in Politics	Department of State		
Civic Engagement	Department of State		
Oil/Gas/Petro	Attorney General	Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Department of Environmental Protection
	Department of Health	Department of Labor and Industry	Department of Transportation
	Game Commission	Office of the State Fire Commissioner	PA Emergency Management Agency
MAD-FACTS/Public Health Accountability	Attorney General	Department of Environmental Protection	Department of Health
	PA Emergency Management Agency		
New Freeport	Attorney General	Department of Environmental Protection	Department of Health
	Infrastructure		

	<u>Investment Authority (PENNVEST)</u>		
Hydrogen/CCS	<u>Attorney General</u>	<u>Department of Community and Economic Development</u>	<u>Department of Conservation and Natural Resources</u>
	<u>Department of Environmental Protection</u>	<u>Department of Health</u>	<u>Department of Labor and Industry</u>
	<u>Department of Transportation (PennDOT)</u>	<u>Fish and Boat Commission</u>	<u>Game Commission</u>
	<u>Office of the State Fire Commissioner</u>	<u>PA Emergency Management Agency</u>	
Coal	<u>Department of Community and Economic Development</u>	<u>Department of Conservation and Natural Resources</u>	<u>Department of Environmental Protection</u>
	<u>Department of Labor and Industry</u>	<u>Fish and Boat Commission</u>	<u>Game Commission</u>
	<u>Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST)</u>		
Economic Justice	<u>Department of Community and Economic Development</u>	<u>Department of Conservation and Natural Resources</u>	<u>Department of Health</u>
	<u>Department of Labor and Industry</u>	<u>Department of Transportation (PennDOT)</u>	<u>Fish and Boat Commission</u>
	<u>Game Commission</u>	<u>Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST)</u>	<u>Public Utility Commission</u>
Harm Reduction	<u>Department of Community and Economic Development</u>	<u>Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs</u>	<u>Department of Health</u>

Attorney General

Pennsylvania Attorney General: Michelle Henry

[Attorney General Website](#)

General Contact	Website Contact Us	717-787-3391
Environmental Crimes	EnvironmentalCrimes@attorneygeneral.gov	570-904-2643
Right-to-Know Officer, Sharon K. Maitland	rtkl@attorneygeneral.gov	717-783-1111

The Attorney General is the [top law enforcement officer](#) in the state. They investigate and prosecute crimes and represent the Commonwealth in cases brought against it. Their [mission](#) is to maintain “the highest standards of ethics to protect life, property, and constitutional and consumer rights, so as to ensure safety and freedom for those living in and visiting the Commonwealth.”

While Pennsylvanians have a constitutional right to a clean environment, the Attorney General [cannot prosecute](#) individuals or corporations for environmental crimes unless it is referred to them by a county’s District Attorney or other state agencies with enforcement authority such as the Department of Environmental Protection, Fish and Boat Commission, and Game Commission.

In the past, the Attorney General has brought [charges against CNX Resources](#) for violations of the Air Pollution Control Act in Washington County and [against Coterra Energy](#) for contamination of well water in Dimock, Pennsylvania.

Department of Community and Economic Development

Secretary of DCED: Rick Siger

[DCED Website](#)

General Contact		1-866-466-3972
SW Community Affairs & Development Regional Office, Johnna Pro		412-565-5098 *Greene County not mentioned as covered by any region
SW Governor’s Center for Local Government Services Planning Contracts, George Newsome		717-649-2495
Right-to-Know Officer, Eileen Quinn	rtk-dced@pa.gov	717-720-7465

DCED is responsible for making Pennsylvania communities and businesses succeed and grow. Their [mission](#) is to “encourage the shared prosperity of all Pennsylvanians by supporting good stewardship and sustainable development initiatives across our Commonwealth.”

DCED can [advise business owners](#) on the best places to open or expand their businesses, workforce development, and financing.

Many state and federal grant and loan programs [run through DCED](#), including programs under the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and Inflation Reduction Act. Examples of programs that DCED runs include the [Whole Home Repairs Program](#), [Weatherization Assistance Program](#), [Community Development Block Grants](#), and the [Abandoned Mine Drainage Abatement and Treatment Program](#).

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Secretary of DCNR: Cindy Adams Dunn

[DCNR Website](#)

General Contact:	Website Contact Us	717-787-2869
State Park Reservations:		888-727-2757
Bureau of Recreation and Conservation Grants Customer Service:	Website	1-800-326-7734
Regional Bureau of Geological Survey	Website	412-442-4235
Right-to-Know Officer, Mark Baldwin	ra-dcnrrighttoknow@pa.gov	717-772-4171

[DCNR is responsible](#) for maintaining, protecting, and managing our state parks and forests. The agency has experts to teach us about ecological and geologic resources and can award [grants](#) and technical assistance to benefit our natural resources and recreation. DCNR’s mission is “to conserve and sustain Pennsylvania’s natural resources for present and future generations’ use and enjoyment.”

When extraction, such as coal mining or a well pad, threatens a state park, DCNR is likely to get involved. After Duke Lake at Ryerson Station State Park was draining because of the effects of longwall mining, [DCNR settled with CONSOL](#) for millions of dollars, which DCNR is now using to improve the park.

Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs

Secretary of DDAP: Dr. Lakita Davis-Jones

[DDAP Website](#)

General Contact:		717-783-8200
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Facility Complaint:	ra-daapi_division@pa.gov	717-783-8675
Recovery Section:	ra-darecoverysection@pa.gov	
Right-to-Know Officer, Ashley Staley	RA-RTK-DA@pa.gov	717-783-8200

DDAP works to reduce drug and alcohol abuse and dependency. Their mission is to “engage, coordinate, and lead [PA’s] effort to prevent and reduce drug, alcohol, and gambling addiction and abuse; and to promote recovery, thereby reducing the human and economic impact of the disease.”

As part of its mission, DDAP publishes educational sources, like this [toolkit](#), sends representatives to [speak or participate in events](#), distributes harm reduction supplies, has a prescription drug takeback program, and more.

Department of Environmental Protection

Interim Acting Secretary of DEP: Jessica Shirley

[DEP Website](#)

Environmental Complaint	Complaint Form	866-255-5158
SW Regional Office	Website	412-442-4000
SW EJ Coordinator, Amelia Benson	acbenson@pa.gov	412-442-4190
Oil & Gas Office	ra-epoilandgas@pa.gov	717-772-2199
California Mining Office	RA-EPCALIFORNIAMO@pa.gov	724-769-1100
Right-to-Know Officer, Jennifer M. Troutman	EP-DEP-RTK@pa.gov	717-787-7397

The DEP’s [mission](#) is to “protect Pennsylvania’s air, land, and water from pollution and to provide for the health and safety of its citizens through a cleaner environment.” Part of their duty is to enforce Pennsylvania’s Environmental Rights Amendment in our State Constitution. [Section 127](#) provides that Pennsylvanians, including future generations, “have a right to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic, and esthetic values of the environment.”

DEP is responsible for permitting coal mining and gas extraction, as well as other activities that affect the quality of our environment. The goal of the permitting program is to prevent pollution, but pollution persists. When there are problems with the activities of a permittee, DEP is also responsible for inspections and enforcement. Community members living near infrastructure

can [file a complaint](#) with the agency.

DEP also has an [Office of Environmental Justice](#), that is committed to working with communities overburdened with pollution and its effects. This office exists to increase community awareness and involvement in DEP processes during the permitting period. The office also may be helpful if contacted about a complaint through information gathering, sitting in on meetings, etc.

Department of Health

Acting Secretary of DOH: Dr. Debra L. Bogen

[DOH Website](#)

SW District Office		724-830-2701
Division of Environmental Health Epidemiology	dehe@pa.gov / ENV. HEALTH CONCERN FORM	717-787-3350
Right-to-Know Officer, Danica Hoppes	PADOHRTK@pa.gov	717-783-2500

DOH has a [vision](#) of a healthy Pennsylvania for all and a mission to “promote healthy behaviors, prevent injury and disease, and to assure the safe delivery of quality health care for all people in Pennsylvania.”

An arm of the Department is focused on [environmental health](#). The Division of Environmental Health compiles data, creates resources, connects to stakeholders (including CCJ), and consults on environmental concerns. DOH [will also review test results](#) from the Department of Environmental Protection or other state-accredited labs and interpret them to determine potential health impacts.

In the past, DOH has also commissioned studies, such as the [PA Health and Environment Study](#) on the relationship between unconventional natural gas development and asthma, childhood cancer, and birth outcomes.

Department of Labor and Industry

Secretary of L&I: Nancy Walker

[L&I Website](#)

General Contact	Website Form	717-787-5279
Right-to-Know Officer, Wendy Willard	RA-LI-RightToKnow@pa.gov	717-787-2889

The Department of Labor and Industry [focuses on](#) Pennsylvania’s workforce and workforce and economic development. They provide services directly to employees through the administration of unemployment benefits and workers’ compensation, job training, the enforcement of workplace safety standards and laws, and runs a community service program for young people.

The Department also [“promotes economic development and an improved business climate.”](#) and therefore may play a very important role in a just transition away from fossil fuels and an economy based on the fossil fuel industry. They consult on [workforce development](#), [administer grants](#), and more.

Department of State

Secretary of DOS: Al Schmidt

[DOS Website](#)

Elections	RA-Elections@pa.gov	717- 787-5280
Campaign Finance and Civic Engagement	RA-stcampaignfinance@pa.gov / RA-LobbyDisclosure@pa.gov	717-787-5280
Corporations and Charitable Organizations	RA-CORPS@pa.gov	717-787-1057 (corps)
Right-to-Know Officer, Janelle Hawthorne	RA-RTK-DOS@pa.gov	717-317-5340

The DOS administers many [election-related laws](#) in Pennsylvania, including campaign finance, lobbying disclosures, and elections security. Their website contains useful information and reports on these topics. The department is also responsible for registering and licensing businesses and health professionals.

DOS works under the mission to “promote the integrity of the electoral process, provide the initial infrastructure for economic development through corporate organizations and transactions, and protect the health and safety of the public.”

Department of Transportation (PennDOT)

Secretary of PennDOT: Michael Carroll

[PennDOT Website](#)

General Contact		717-787-2838
Report Road/Bridge Concern	Online Portal	1-800-FIX-ROAD
Right-to-Know Officer, Adam Shanabrook	PENNDOT-RightToKnow@pa.gov	717-783-8780

PennDOT has a hand in [all things transportation](#) in Pennsylvania. Its mission is to “enhance, connect, and add value to our communities by providing a sustainable, equitable transportation system and quality services for all” They run programs affecting highways, public transportation, airports, railroads, ports, and waterways and an emission inspection program.

When an activity such as coal mining affects a road, PennDOT will have a plan. For example, the

department has a multiphase [monitoring and maintenance plan](#) in place for longwall mining under Interstates 70 and 79 in Washington and Greene Counties.

Fish and Boat Commission

President of Fish and Boat: William Gibney

Executive Director of Fish and Boat: Timothy D. Schaeffer

[Fish and Boat Website](#)

Southwest Region Contact	RA-FBSWRLE@pa.gov	814-445-8974
Right-to-Know Officer, Christopher Andreoli	ra-pfbcknow@pa.gov	717-705-7807

The [Fish and Boat Commission](#) user-funded agency (receiving no general fund assistance from the State) with a mission “to protect, conserve, and enhance the Commonwealth’s aquatic resources and provide fishing and boating opportunities.”

The agency’s responsibilities include hatching fish and stocking our streams in the spring, issuing fishing and boating licenses, conservation of habitats, and education. Fish and Boat also runs several [grant programs](#) in pursuit of their mission.

There are [several streams and lakes](#) in Washington and Greene County that are stocked by Fish and Boat or have boat access. In addition, Fish and Boat [owns](#) Canonsburg Lake and Dutch Fork Lake in Washington County.

Game Commission

Executive Director of Game Commission: Bryan J. Burhans

[Game Commission Website](#)

General	Online Contact Form	1-833-PGC-HUNT / 1-833-PGC-WILD
Southwest Region	Website	833-742-4868 / 833-742-9453
Right-to-Know Officer, Zachary Fahenstock	pgcrtk@pa.gov	717-787-4250

The Game Commission works under a [mission](#) to “manage and protect wildlife and their habitats while promoting hunting and trapping for current and future generations.” To reach the goals of its mission, the Commission [owns and manages over 1.5 million acres](#) of game lands throughout the state. If an operator wanted to extract resources from these lands, they would negotiate with the Game Commission. It would be the same if there were damages to the property as a result of the extraction.

Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST)

Executive Director of PennVEST: Robert Boos

[PennVEST Website](#)

General	Online Form	717-783-6798
Right-to-Know Officer, Denise Zern	RTKL PENNVEST@pa.gov	717-783-6747

PENNVEST is an agency focused on funding and improving Pennsylvania. Its [mission](#) is to “serve the communities and citizens of Pennsylvania by funding sewer, storm water, and drinking water projects.” The [projects funded](#) by PENNVEST can help clean the environment and contribute to economic growth. Examples of funding opportunities include [Water Pollution Prevention Projects](#) and [Brownfield Redevelopment](#).

Office of the State Fire Commissioner

State Fire Commissioner: Thomas Cook

OSFC [Website](#)

General	Online Form	
Right-to-Know Officer, Jo Wright	ra-rtk-pema@pa.gov	

OSFC is a relatively new agency in Pennsylvania that serves the [mission](#) “to develop a robust, customer-focused support system for these agencies that includes superior training, innovation in both policy and finance, aggressive community education, and free and free and technological-sound flows of information.” Therefore, this agency is responsible for ensuring that our firefighters are prepared to fight fires and other emergencies they are presented with, including those that might arise from industry activity.

PA Emergency Management Agency

Director of PEMA: David (Randy) Padfield

[PEMA Website](#)

General	Online Form	717-651-2001
Right-to-Know Officer, Jo Wright	ra-rtk-pema@pa.gov	717-651-2214

PEMA is vital to emergency assistance in Pennsylvania. Its [mission](#) is to help “communities and citizens migrate against, prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies including natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other human-made disasters.” The agency plans for emergencies such as nuclear disasters, hurricanes, floods, and more. It is also responsible for

coordinating county emergency management agencies.

Public Utility Commission

[PUC Board of Commissioners](#)

[PUC Website](#)

General	Online Form	1-800-692-7380
Utility Customer Complaint	File Online	1-800-692-7380
Right-to-Know Officer, Rosemary Chiavetta	RA-PUCRightToKnow@pa.gov	717-772-7777

The PUC [oversees](#) all the entities that provide utility services in Pennsylvania, including electricity, gas, pipeline transmission of gas and other hazardous materials, water and wastewater collection and disposal and more. The agency does this to further their mission of “balanc[ing] the needs of consumers and utilities; ensur[ing] safe and reliable utility service at reasonable rates; protect[ing] the public interest; education[ing] consumers to make independent and informed utility choices; further[ing] economic development; and foster[ing] new technologies and competitive markets in an environmentally sound manner” PUC also administers the [AEPS Act](#) and [Act 13 Impact Fees](#).